



STATE OF DELAWARE  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL

STATE OFFICE BUILDING – 10<sup>th</sup> FLOOR  
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**Summary Minutes  
Juvenile Justice Advisory Group  
Thursday, March 21, 2019  
9:00AM -10:00 AM**

**Buena Vista Conference Center  
661 S. DuPont Highway  
New Castle, Delaware 19720**

**Committee Members:** Michael Arrington (Chair), Abigail Layton (Dept. of Justice), Lisa Minutola (Office of Defense Services), John Stevenson (DSCYF-Sec. Proxy), Capt. Peter Sawyer (Dept. of Homeland Security), Chief Marvin Mailey (Dover PD), Dr. Gwendolyn Scott-Jones (Public Member), James Kane (Public Member), Corie Priest (Public Member), Morgan Smith (Youth Member), Amanda Huff (Youth Member).

**CJC and SAC Staff:** Cliffvon Howell (CJC), Monica Celli (CJC), Jared Morris (CJC)

**Public Attendees:**

The agenda items were discussed in the following order:

**I. Approval of Minutes from previous JJAG Meeting**

JJAG members approved the minutes.

**II. Federal Issues**

All Title II Block grants have been awarded. \$3,000 is available for DMC or Prevention training. The training must occur before September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Cliffvon Howell requested members contact him with any training needs.

The annual report is due March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019. The group reviewed the draft report.

**III. JJAG Administrative Matters**

While reviewing the report, the group noted that some committees have not been active. Members stated that some chairs would like more guidance regarding committee activities.

The police agencies chose to remain under the DOJ description in the report for this year.

A paragraph was removed from page 13 regarding youth with adult charges until clarification on the federal rules is provided.

A member noted that the 2012 report was cited as the previous report instead of the 2018 report. The group then noticed that the DYRS population decreased significantly from 2012. Members stated this decrease should be included in the report. They also noted that while this population is no longer in DYRS, they are still served by other state systems, such as Family Services.

Kathleen Jennings' name should be corrected from "Katherine" to "Kathleen."

The chair initiated discussion among the group about what can be added to the report to determine the group's future direction.

Members made the following suggestions:

- Use data on school drop-outs, Kids' Department caseloads, geographic areas & pockets of poverty, school incidence data, and youth violence in Wilmington & Dover, to direct the Governor and Legislature and target resources.
- Analyze data and create a road map.
- Note the reconstruction of the RAI assessment tool
- Provide more prevention programs for the younger population and places for a child to go for services instead of YRS due to lack of options.
- Recommendations regarding evaluation of the Civil Citation program
- Services for those who do not need in depth mental health services, but who have other needs.
- More use of Family Services instead of PBH
- Options for police officers who are unable to contact parents for detained or arrested children, along with viable options for petty crimes & status offenses.
- Engage at-risk youth and expanding their world views.
- Target underlying causes, use RNR tools, ask the youth directly about their needs, and provide consistent adult support from those who look and speak like them.
- Provide in-school, evidence-based programs, implemented with fidelity. Focus resources on programs proven effective.
- Mentorship programs
- Address the need for relationships. DYRS determined relationships have been the number 1 need of those assessed in YCOP. They are trying to pinpoint the relationship needs.

- A contact person (Volunteer Coordinators) to guide people in the process to work with youth.
- Address the breakdown of the family unit, Nurse-Family Home Partnerships, early childhood interventions, interventions with pregnant mothers, address problems for the long-term future instead of solely short-term.

The group then discussed the Juvenile Legislation Package. Members expressed desire to support it in its entirety. The package will be sent out to all members for review and their positions.

The chair requested CJC provide the updated draft report by Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### **IV. Functional Areas Presentation**

N/A

#### **V. Adjourn**

Respectfully submitted,  
Cliffvon Howell  
Juvenile Justice Specialist  
Notes compiled by Monica Celli